

REMARKS

By this Amendment, Claims 1 and 11 have been revised for clarity.

In response to the requirement for election of species, Applicant provisionally elects species 7 (Fig. 8) for prosecution on the merits, with Claims 1, 2, 5-7, and 9-12 being considered to be readable on the elected species. However, the requirement is respectfully traversed.

The instant application is a PCT National Stage application and, as such, is governed by the Unity of Invention standard under the PCT. See 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.499 and 1.475, and M.P.E.P. § 1893.03(d). The election requirement is evidently based on U.S. election practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.141 - 1.146, and is therefore improper.

In that the PCT Unity of Invention standard has not been applied as required, Applicants respectfully request that the election of species requirement be withdrawn and that all claims be examined on the merits.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1165 (XA-10623) any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this paper and to credit any overpayment to that Account. If any extension of time is required in connection with the filing

of this paper and has not been separately requested, such extension is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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